

Wichita Daily Eagle

FOUR INSCRIPTIONS.

Marlowe, the fallen of the sons of song
Whose praise is England's crowning praise,
Above
All stories that crown her, sweet and strong
As England, clothed with light and fire of
love,
And girl with might of passion, thought and
trust,
Stands here in spirit; sleeps not here in dust.

Marlowe, a star too sovereign, too superb
To fade when heaven took fire from Shake-
speare's light.
A soul that knew no song's triumphal curb
And loved triumphant bondage, holds of
right
His place of place, who first in place and time
Made England's voice as England's heart sub-
lime.

Marlowe had England live in living song;
The life he lifted up in Shakespeare's way.
He spoke, and life sprang forth in music, strong
As fire or lightning, sweet as dawn of day.
Song was a dream where day took night to wife:
"Let there be life," he said, and there was life.

Marlowe of all our fathers first beheld
Beyond the tide of ebb and flow of things,
The timeless depth and height of souls, im-
pelled
By thought of passion, borne on waves or
wings,
Beyond all flight or sight but song; and he
First gave our song a sound that matched our
era.

—Algernon Charles Swinburne.

MIGNONNE.

I was struck by his appearance. His was
one of those intrepid heads, stamped with
the seal of war, upon whose brows are
written the battles of Napoleon. About
this old soldier was a certain air of frank-
ness and of gaiety which always wins my
favor.

He was doubtless one of those old troops
who nothing can surprise; who find
food for laughter in the dying spasms of a
comrade; who gaily bury and despoil him;
who challenge bullets with indifference—
though their arguments are not enough—
and who would hob-nob with the devil.

In a few moments we had struck up an
acquaintance, and went to dine at the first
restaurant at hand. At dessert a bottle of
champagne completely cleared the memory
of this strange old soldier. He told his
story.

During the expedition undertaken in
Upper Egypt by General Desaix, a Pro-
vençal soldier, who had fallen into the
hands of the Mamelukes, was taken by
these Arabs into the desert beyond the cat-
aracts of the Nile. In order to put be-
tween them and the French army a dis-
tance to assure their safety, the Mam-
elukes made a forced march and did not
halt till night.

They then camped by the side of a well,
surrounded by a clump of palm trees,
where they had before buried some pro-
visions. Never dreaming that their pris-
oner would think of flight, they merely
bound his hands, and all of them, after
eating a few dates and giving barley to
their horses, went to sleep.

When the bold Provençal saw his ene-
mies unable of watching him, he picked
up a scimitar with his teeth, and then,
with the blade fixed between his knees,
cut the cords that lashed his wrists, and
found himself at liberty.

He at once seized a carbine and a dag-
ger, provided himself with some dry dates
and a small bag of barley, powder and
balls, grinded on the scimitar, sprang on a
horse and pressed forward in the direction
where he fancied the French army must
be found. Impatient to gain the bivouac,
he so urged the weary horse that the poor
beast fell dead, its sides torn with the
spurs, leaving the Frenchman alone in the
midst of the desert.

After wandering for some time amid
the sand with the desperate courage of an
escaping convict the soldier was forced to
stop. Night was closing in. Despite the
beauty of the eastern night he had not
strength sufficient to go on. Fortunately
he had reached a height on the top of
which were palm trees, whose leaves, for
some time visible far off, had awakened in
his heart a hope of safety. He was so
weary that he lay down on a granite stone,
oddly shaped like a camp bed, and went to
sleep, without taking the precaution to
protect himself in his slumber.

He was awakened by the sun, whose pit-
iless rays falling vertically upon the granite
made it intolerably hot.

Far away the desert was marked off, as
on a summer day at sea, by a line of light
as bright and narrow as a sailor's edge.

The Provençal was twenty-two years old.
He went down in the direction opposite
to that which he had taken when he had
climbed the hill the night before. Great
was his joy on discovering a kind of grotto,
naturally cut out of the enormous frag-
ments of granite that formed the bottom of
the hill. The remains of a mat showed
that this retreat had once been inhabited.
Then, a few steps farther, he saw palm trees
with a load of dates.

At length, weary by the heat, he fell
asleep beneath the red roof of his murky
grotto.

In the middle of the night he was dis-
turbed by a strange noise. He sat up.
In the profound silence he could hear a
creature breathing a kind of respiration
which resembled nothing human. Terror
intensified by darkness, silence and the
fancies of one suddenly awakened, froze his
blood.

He felt the sharp contraction of his
scalp when, as the pupils of his eyes di-
lated, he saw in the shadow two faint and
yellow lights. At first he thought these
lights were some reflection of his eyeballs,
but soon, the clear brightness of the night
helping him to distinguish objects in the
grotto, he saw lying at two paces from
him an enormous beast.

Was it a lion, a tiger, a crocodile? The
Provençal was not sufficiently educated to
know the species of his enemy, but his ter-
ror was all the greater, since his ignorance
assisted his imagination. He bore the
cruel torture of listening, of marking the
expirations of this fearful breathing, without
losing a sound of it or venturing to make
the slightest movement.

Presently the moon, now sinking, lighted
up the den, and in the moon rays gradu-
ally shone out a panther's spotted skin.

The lion of Egypt was sleeping, curled
up like a great dog who is the peacable
possessor of a sumptuous kennel at a man-
sion door; its eyes, which had been opened
for one moment, were now closed again.
Its face was turned toward the Frenchman.

A thousand troubled thoughts passed
through the mind of the panther's pris-
oner. At first he thought of shooting it, but
there was not enough room between them
to adjust his gun; the barrel would have
reached beyond the animal. And what if
he awoke it? This supposition made him
motionless. Listening in the silence to
the beating of his heart, he cursed the loud
pulsations, fearing to disturb the sleep
that gave him time to seek some means of
safety. Twice he placed his hand upon his
scimitar with the intention of cutting
off the head of his enemy, but the difficulty
of cutting through the short, strong fur
compelled him to abandon the idea. To

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria,
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria,
When she became a Woman, she clung to Castoria,
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

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